

The Northwest Missourian



One professor's trip to Malawi to study magnificent Baobab trees brings memories and increased knowledge of nutrition and mystique of the trees, A8

THURSDAY March 18, 2010 | V85 | N24

NWMissourinews.com

THIS WEEK CAMPUS

Royal Canadians

Guy Lombardo's Royal Canadians will hit the stage early next month.

The performance is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 5 at the Ron Houston Center for the Performing Arts.

Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at the Students Service Desk, online or at the box office before the show.

COMMUNITY

Humane Society

Pawty for the Pound, a wish-list fundraiser, will be held beginning at 5:30 p.m. Thursday.

The fundraiser will help the shelter gather important supplies.

A list of supplies, including blankets and care supplies, can be found by calling the shelter at 660.562.3333.

Each person that donates supplies will also be in the running for a raffle prize at the end of the night.

BEARCATS

Friday

-Baseball vs. Missouri Southern, 2 p.m. at Bearcat Field

-Men's and Women's Tennis vs. East Central (Okla.), 2 p.m. in Tulsa, Okla.

-Softball vs. Washburn, 2 p.m. in Warrensburg, Mo.

-Softball vs. Truman State, 4 p.m. in Warrensburg, Mo.

Saturday

-Softball vs. Nebraska-Omaha, 10 a.m. in Warrensburg, Mo.

-Men's and Women's Tennis vs. Southwest Baptist, 12 p.m. in Bolivar, Mo.

-Softball vs. Missouri Western, 12 p.m. in Warrensburg, Mo.

-Baseball vs. Missouri Southern, 1 p.m. at Bearcat Field

-Softball vs. Fort Hays State, 4 p.m. in Warrensburg, Mo.

-Track and Field at the Tulsa Invitational in Tulsa, Okla.

Sunday

-Baseball vs. Missouri Southern, 1 p.m. at Bearcat Field

-Men's and Women's Tennis vs. St. Edwards (Texas), 1 p.m. in Collin County, Texas.

Monday

-Men's and Women's Tennis vs. Dallas Baptist, 3 p.m. in Dallas, Texas

Tuesday

-Men's and Women's Tennis vs. Midwestern State in Wichita Falls, Texas

Wednesday

-Men's and Women's Tennis vs. Abilene Christian, 3:30 p.m. in Abilene, Texas

SPOOFHOUNDS

Thursday

-Girls' Basketball vs. Mount Vernon, 1:40 p.m. in Columbia, Mo. (Semifinals)

Friday

-Girls' Basketball third place game, 12 p.m. in Columbia, Mo.

Saturday

-Girls' Basketball State Championship game, 12 p.m. in Columbia, Mo.

Tuesday

-Baseball vs. Savannah, 4:30 p.m. in Savannah, Mo.

-Girls' Soccer vs. Cameron, 4:30 p.m. at Maryville Middle School

RAISING AWARENESS | WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES



photo by lori frankenfeld | photography editor

FRATERNITY MEMBERS SPENCER Solon, James Ford and Patrick Laky are participating in the annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes. The walk will be held Thursday, beginning at the Bell Tower, to inform Northwest students on the effects of sexual assault against women.

STRUUTTING THEIR STUFF

Guys don high heels, trek through campus

By Philip Gruenwald
Chief Reporter

rest of the proceeds go toward the Wellness Center.

Sophomore James Ford predicted as many as 30-40 participants would don high heels donated mainly by sororities, and make the mile hike around campus during the four hour time slot.

"I just hope some of the guys have enough balance to do it. It's always pretty interesting - everybody gets a good crack out of it," Ford said.

Ford and partner Nate Tucker coordinated the walk in association with the IFC.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes is a nationwide philanthropy that has had a presence at Northwest for years. This year, the emphasis was on outreach.

"We're just trying to

get the community involved and aware of what it's about, which is bringing awareness that we have a center in Maryville and that if you ever have been beaten or battered, verbally or physically, you have a place to go that's not too far away," Ford said.

Senior Stephanie Stamoulis, intern at the Children and Family Center, brought the Center to the Walk event for the first time in history. This was the first year community-wide outreach has been so greatly encouraged.

"I think it's a really good idea to not just have a center raising awareness where that's their 'job' but to have

See HEELS on A5

102 RIVER

Water levels high after continuous snow, rain this winter

By Philip Gruenwald
Chief Reporter

Record snowfalls this winter melted and saturated the ground, yielding noticeable flooding of the 102 River. Water levels the week of March 7 breached the 18-foot mark, officially putting it into Flood Stage, according to the National Weather Service.

Continued spring rain-

fall on already-soaked earth will only intensify the problem, according to the Missouri Department of Transportation.

"As for future flooding, that's up to God," said MoDOT Area Engineer Mary Liles. "Like you, we're just watching and waiting."

Yet as high as flood and run-off levels have been, Nodaway County is still a healthy distance behind re-

cord levels (see sidebar). David Easterla, faculty sponsor of the 102 River Wildlife Club, attributes the relatively low flooding to the County's frigid winter.

"If you remember, the snow started in December. We're into March. So what happened to that snow and ice? It evaporated - freezing is an evaporating process," Easterla said. "If we would have had really hot weather

all of a sudden and it stayed hot, everything would have melted at once and we would have had one hell of a flood."

Easterla surmises that roughly half of the water content from the snow was lost due to the abnormally cold winter.

"This melting has been

very slow; we've been in the

See FLOODING on A5

Flood Levels 102 River

1. 26.98 ft. - 5/8/07
2. 26.20 ft. - 6/6/08
3. 24.46 ft. - 4/27/09
4. 23.94 ft. - 8/24/07
5. 23.72 ft. - 5/16/09
6. 23.61 ft. - 6/12/08
7. 22.17 ft. - 6/8/09
8. 21.94 ft. - 5/30/04
9. 21.29 ft. - 6/27/08
10. 20.77 ft. - 3/2/08

18.2 ft. - highest recorded level last week

PROVOST

Dunham brings new collaboration to Leadership Team

By Matt Leimkuehler
Chief Reporter

"I think I'm pretty good at connecting the dots," Dunham said.



Doug Dunham
Provost

things might be synthesized and how we might get some synergy."

Dunham realizes working with the Leadership Team

See DUNHAM on A5

SPRING CONCERT



photo courtesy university relations
emerson drive

Country artists genre of choice for concert

By Cassie Thomas
Chief Reporter

Student Activities Council announced Tuesday that country singer Chuck Wicks and the band Emerson Drive will be coming to campus for the annual spring concert.

The performance will be at 7:30 p.m. on April 9 at Bearcat Arena. Tickets went on sale to students on Monday and will be available to non-students on April 5.

SAC Graduate Assistant, Dan Scheuler, worked with the concert committee and Candice Wulf, assistant director of Campus Activities, to bring this concert to campus.

When evaluating which concerts they would like to bring to campus, the committee considers other concerts that have been offered recently.

"We try to rotate genres between the fall and spring. We try not to have two rock concerts or two country concerts," Scheuler said.

Concert committee co-chair Pat Solomon believes that this concert will be well received.

"The country enthusiasts will definitely enjoy this concert. Also, many of the radio stations in the Maryville community play country, so we thought the community would enjoy this concert as well," Solomon said.

Emerson Drive found chart-topping success with their single, "Moments."

Wicks' first single, "Stealing Cinderella," was released in September 2007 and his fame began to grow leading to the release of his debut album in January 2008.

STATS

Organization recruits inner-city students

By Emily DeMarea
Missourian Reporter

Students Taking Action Through Service was created in the fall trimester of 2007 by Jason Williams, a junior at Northwest. For those who don't know, STATS is a rising campus organization with over 40 members that encourages inner-city youth to reach for higher education.

"You'll never know what heights you can soar until you spread your wings and fly," Williams, STATS president, says.

The group meets the first and third week of every month, with study sessions on the second and fourth weeks of every month.

"The goal of our study sessions is to encourage students to work together because everybody is good at something," Wil-

liams said.

During the monthly study sessions, teachers often get involved with tutoring the students. Williams credits math instructor Denise Weiss for this opportunity. Weiss suggested the group offer tutoring last semester, and she has played a large part in proctoring the sessions.

Other activities the STATS organization participates in are the occasional Station parties, the annual five-on-five basketball tournament and a series of 10 to 15 university tours each year for inner-city students who are interested in attending Northwest in the fall. Today, the organization will be administering a tour to 130 potential students.

Not only does STATS reach out to students who tour, it also goes the extra mile to get to students who

cannot make the visit to Northwest. For a group as dedicated as STATS, this even means going to schools over Spring Break if necessary.

"On March 26, we will be at the University Academy in Kansas City, Mo." Williams said. "Oftentimes, we like to make presentations at any schools that we can get to, and we like to stress to them why it is so important for inner-city students to further their education beyond high school."

Another program that STATS has recently launched is the HOME program, which stands for Helping our Minorities Excel.

This program is geared towards keeping students at the University by providing resources on campus and encouraging students

to attend class regularly and work hard.

"In the coming year, we also plan to launch a student advocacy program," Williams said. "In which the STATS members will serve as advocates to students and assist them in the college admissions and applications process."

In only three short years, STATS has managed to recruit 47 students, administer two meetings and two study sessions each month, plan various events for students and launch new programs to encourage inner-city youth to succeed in college. Williams credits much of STAT's success to the freshmen class.

"This has been the most successful year so far due to the charisma and leadership of the freshmen class, led by Montoya Lucas," Williams said.

DANCE COMPANY



ELIZABETH CROWELL, A member of the Northwest Dance Company, practices for the upcoming show Thursday night. The show is called 'Dancing Through the Decades', and will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Ron Houston Center of the Performing Arts.

photo by hilary dohman | missourian photographer

EDUCATION EXPO

Graduating education majors network with Midwest school districts visiting campus

By Matthew Leimkuehler
Chief Reporter

School districts from all over the region piled into Bearcat Arena on Wednesday morning for the annual Education Expo held for prospective teachers preparing to enter the job market.

A variety of districts were represented, including Blue Springs, Tarkio, Falls City, Butler, Wichita and Cameron. The event was an opportunity

for future teachers to network with employers.

Alan Kerr, representative from the Rock Port School District, feels sympathy for many of the applicants attending the event.

"I feel bad for the applicants," Kerr said. "With all the cuts there's a lot of employees out there, but there's not a lot of jobs. It's good for the school because we get the best of the best, but it's not for the people looking for jobs."

Kerr enjoys the personalization of the expo, along with the contact that is made with the applicants.

"You can put a face with a name," Kerr said. "Usually, if you just advertise online you won't get to see the face or see the person."

Education major Patrick Stief hoped to use the expo to its full potential to find a job after graduation.

"It lets me know what all is out there and where I can

try to get a job. It shows me what opportunities are open," Stief said.

Stief won't be picky after graduation, when the time comes to enter the job market, he claims he will work wherever he can find a job. He does not allege to have a specific working location, and is just hoping for employment.

"There's some opportunities out there, but it could be difficult," Stief said. "It just depends on what I find."

West Platte High School Principal Stan Coulson compared the expansion of the expo, to last year's event.

"I think we have a lot more students represented this year than last year," Coulson said. "We appreciate the opportunity to come out and see the students."

Coulson recognizes the major networking that takes place at such an event. He talked about helping students connect with certain districts

that are looking for teachers.

Although Kerr said he enjoys attending the expo, he claims it's a disadvantage for the students.

"If I had any recommendations, I'd say to have it a month earlier," Kerr said. "We know pretty much who we're going to have to employ about a month ago. If we could have interviewed a month earlier, it could have been more relevant to the positions we had to fill."

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JAVA JOINT



photo by courtney edwards | managing editor

MUSICIAN MICHAEL MARTIN jams during an Open Mic Night for an audience at the Java Joint on Thursday, March 11. The Java Joint is holding its "Farewell Bash" tonight at 8 p.m. The coffee shop is closing down after almost a year of serving coffee and providing live entertainment.

MODOT

State department rises to challenge during budget cuts

By Cassie Thomas
Chief Reporter

MoDOT recently announced funding cuts that will take place over the next five years.

Cuts will amount to \$203 million and will come by decreasing spending and eliminating 400 salaried positions without layoffs.

In his announcement on March 10, MoDOT Director Peter Rahn revealed plans to decrease the construction program as a result of stagnant state revenues, uncertain federal

funding, rising employee benefit costs and no more money coming from Amendment 3.

"Our plan for the next five years is to focus on keeping our existing transportation system in good shape rather than building new highways, bridges and other facilities," Rahn said.

According to Rahn, problems that have arisen were not unexpected.

"I have been saying for quite some time that transportation funding is headed over a cliff," Rahn said. "Now we are forced to make tough decisions that will make MoDOT smaller

and change the way we do business."

The recent release showed plans for MoDOT to cut \$81 million over the next five years through a reduction in work forces and work spaces.

By June 30, 2013, MoDOT will have 400 less salaried employees. This will not be done through layoffs, but rather by instituting a hiring freeze on 75 percent of vacant positions.

Other reductions may be evident to the public including less mowing, litter pick up and sign replacement.

Another \$122 worth of

cuts will result from cost cuts. MoDOT will reduce spending in areas such as vehicles and buildings.

"These actions are not taken lightly, but they are necessary," Rahn said. "MoDOT will rise to the challenge."

Currently, there is no way to say how these cuts will affect northwest Missouri.

Congress not passing a transportation bill affected the northwest region. It has seen a complete freeze on hiring, and project bids cannot be confirmed because funding cannot be secured.

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL

Hospice raises money to assist patients, families

By Andrew Johnson
Missourian Reporter

What started as an idea to raise a little money has, after several years, provided several thousand dollars for the SSM Hospice and Home Care Foundation, affiliated with St. Francis Hospital.

"We [the foundation] are here to support the community and their families," Deb Herring, who works for the center, said.

Additional funds were raised from the Silent Auction.

"This is the fourth year for the event and we raised around \$4,000," Jacobe said.

The money will be used for special projects within the facility. In the past, the center has helped patients with holiday meals, items for home and activities.

"We are so thankful for all the support given to us from the community," Herring said.

The Northwest Greek community is also coming together to support the Foundation. Northwest's Order of Omega chapter is sponsoring a golf tournament at noon on Saturday, April 10 at Mozingo Golf Course. All proceeds go towards SSM Hospice and Home Care Foundation.



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OUR VIEW

Missouri residents should support family farms

With an increase in urbanization, we've seen an increase in industrialization. We've seen the small, local businesses give way to larger conglomerates. Even farming has become industrialized, and the factory farms are pushing out the small farmer. This past month, the issues of industrial farming and the debate of factory versus family farms has been brought to the forefront in northern Missouri.

Premium Standard Farms, a factory farm that

specializes in pork production, is obligated to meet several requirements in order to retain their base of operation in Missouri, such as surface water runoff and barn odor. However, eleven years after the requirements were put in place, barn odor is still a major problem for this factory farm and neighboring residents. Even though the deadline was extended to July 31st, the second extension for Premium Standard Farms to meet the requirements, a jury recently awarded \$11 million

to neighboring landowners due to barn odor.

The first major concern with this is the role of Premium Standard Farms within the local and state economy. Premium Standard Farms contributes to Missouri by creating employment opportunities. This is an obvious plus.

However, the state of Missouri cannot forget the property rights of the individual. Premium Standard Farms has been here since the 1990s and has been given two separate

deadlines to meet the requirements given by the state. These requirements are here for a reason; protecting the environment, land and neighboring properties should also be a primary concern of Missouri officials. We should give more respect to our local farmers than this.

Even though industrial farms provide a much-used service, this service does not come without a price the residents of the state will pay in the long run.

Some negatives for

humans include odors from so many animals confined to a small space, which will affect neighboring residents. An overabundance of animal waste carries bacteria and parasites that may harm a person's health. Animal waste is often applied too much to crops and may contaminate our sources for water. The overuse of antibiotics has the potential of making people resistant to antibiotics.

We see commercials of the happy dairy cow smiling and talking to us through the tele-

vision screen. However, there is nothing happy for animals about factory farming. Close confinement and mutilation can attest to this.

The backbone of our nation has shifted to an industrial way of life. While we should still support our local farmers, sometimes that is not possible in our urban areas. If we are going to depend on factory farming, we should at least place regulations on terrible practices to reduce the harm on our citizens, our land and our animals.

WHAT THE DEUCE

CARTOON



MY VIEW

Education reform affects nation, crosses line

By Chris Edwards
Contributing Columnist

For purely ideological reasons, a single state is now subverting the educational needs of an entire nation.

In a vote held last week, the Texas Board of Education agreed to a new set of amendments that would drastically alter the way we teach history. For at least the next ten years, Texas children will be subjected to a new brand of history and social studies, one that heralds the rise of the fabled "Judeo-Christian Society".

Under the new standards, John Calvin replaces Thomas Jefferson in many instances relating to the founding of our country.

John Calvin is certainly an influential figure in religious lore. There are many elements of Calvinism that are still found in churches today. However, any effect that Calvin had on our nation's history cannot be compared to the legacy of Thomas Jefferson; even attempting to associate the two ignores a number of linear and geographic boundaries.

When has it been acceptable to swap out historical figures that are almost entirely unalike? It is even more suspect when one considers the religious belief held by those

involved.

The new standards also include some significant changes regarding the way we view historical contributions from minorities.

The emergence of hip-hop as a cultural movement has been completely stripped from curriculums. Several of the board members who approved these changes have argued publicly there is, in fact, adequate attention paid to minority leaders. Unfortunately, the public record doesn't support these claims.

The board moved to systematically deny numerous Hispanics died at the Alamo. This same group also voted to strip important passages relating to the Ku-Klux-Klan and the plight of American Indians.

This is a clear example of ideology run amuck. A board comprised of everyday Texans has been allowed to engineer a paradigm shift when it comes to the way we teach history. Worse yet, these changes will likely be felt throughout the entire country.

There are more than 4.7 million students who will be directly affected by these amendments. This represents more than eight percent of our nationwide public school enrollment.

Textbook publishers are going

to follow the dollar signs. Each will likely adopt their texts to fit the new Texas standards. If they don't, their competitors will. Furthermore, a textbook manufacturer publishing different history books in order to cater to different states seems unlikely. Even if such an arrangement were feasible, we should be much more worried about other states adopting the standards than textbook manufacturers failing to alter their own.

Throughout history, Texas has had an incredible amount of influence on our educational priorities. What eventually became No Child Left Behind (NCLB) originated in Texas.

Widely panned, NCLB introduced unattainable goals, unfunded mandates and curriculum alterations that forced teachers and administrators to replace real instruction with test-prep. Many southern states have similar electorates, and they may be quick to adopt the same standards.

At this point, we should be concerned about more than just ideology and political machinery. If the conservative Texas Board of Education is allowed to set our national agenda based upon misinformation and omission, what does that say for the future of our country?

Former Congressional member Erica Massa, who was thrown into the media spotlight for inappropriate sexual behavior with aides, brings to light the abuse of power and the military policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell". The sexual conduct of a person holding a political office should remain beyond reproach unless it breaks a law, or is with a person who could be influenced by a more powerful position. If a congressional member is making advances on an aide, that would be wrong because the member holds a position of power. The same would go for an officer in the military. However, this should not affect the right to serve in the military, regardless of sexual orientation, because the abuse of rank could occur for either sex.

CAMPUS TALK

Do you think congressional members who commit sexual acts while in office should be removed from their position?



"No, I don't believe they should. Bill Clinton was an amazing president. He made one bad decision. Everyone makes bad decisions at some point in their life."

Christian Falcone
Graphic Design



"I feel that they should resign because we don't need cheating liars in office running our country."

Megan Hogrefe
Undecided



"It is my opinion that resigning with dignity is preferable to continuing to make a mockery of the political system. Not only is Massa saving face now, but it will spare him an embarrassing defeat come election time."

Jeff Scott
Political Science



"No, their personal lives should have no effect upon their career. They are people just like the rest of us and are old enough and mature enough to make their own decisions."

Vanessa Hurley
IDM - Visual Imaging



"I honestly don't care, that is a part of their character, but I don't feel like their private life should effect their seat in office. Normally, a sexual affair should only be his or her business."

Joshua Schmitz
IDM - Visual Imaging

MY VIEW

Women should not be silenced in Afghanistan

By Kathleen Wilmes
Opinion Editor

Taliban.

Freedom still has not reached the rural areas for women, and much of the progress that has been experienced has been in the face of grave circumstances, from acid thrown on the face to schools destroyed. But one phenomenon I find particularly interesting and startling in regards to these women.

Self-immolation, the practice of suicide by lighting one's self on fire, has increased since Afghanistan's liberation from Taliban rule. Now I can see this being a common practice during an oppressive regime, the last protest from a woman kept silent her whole life. But the government has become much friendlier to women, and women even hold government positions. But the rural woman experiences none of this liberalization, and still she is the peace-weaver of old.

Taking this aside, the criminal justice system in Afghanistan alone leaves much to be desired in regards to the rights of women, when physical abuse goes unpunished, when women still must fear seeking an education or educating others.

I realize that it takes time to fully gain the rights secured by a government, if those rights can ever be completely gained at all. However, the Afghan woman should still not be silenced by her society or by her government. She has a legitimate concern with the possibility of the Taliban's inclusion into an accepted way of life.

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HEELS: Walk raises awareness against violence in relationships

Continued from A1

people on campus, men specifically, supporting the idea of not being violent," Stamoullis said. "It's kind of stopping it that way – having that influence of people that are involved on campus and through activities to say that enough is enough."

Male participants were encouraged to sign up, but Ford stresses that everyone was welcome and they have had female walkers before. Entrants started their journey at the Bell Tower before weaving their way around the Administration Building, between Garrett Strong and the library to the sidewalks near the highrises, down Fourth Street to the international flags, up to Hudson-Perrin and ended again at the Bell Tower. Freshman Spencer Solon and sophomore Patrick Laky were not daunted by traversing the cobblestone between the flags in high heels.

"This is a unique experience. You always hear those stories about people getting abused and raped – this is really the first opportunity I've had to give back," Solon said. "I have a sister who goes here and every time I hear those stories I think about her, and it just kills you. So giving back

is just great."

Laky and Solon are members of Phi Sigma Kappa, just one of many fraternities encouraged to partake in the walk. This marks Laky's second time participating.

"Last year I was kind of skeptical, but then when they started telling the story about everyone coming together as one and that we're doing an event for something far greater than us, I realized that it needed to be done," Laky said. "It was a little embarrassing, but you do what you've got to do."

Laky sums up the goal mentality behind the walk: guys getting out of the realm of comfort to raise awareness for an uncomfortable subject. Through advertisement and outreach, the IFC, Children and Family Center and the Wellness Center are taking steps to beat down violence and abuse.

"We'll look ridiculous walking around in high heels, but that really gets people noticing," Solon said. "Because when you see a bunch of guys in high heels they're like, 'What are they doing?' So that's really going to get people involved in it, get the word out and hopefully get more support. And how often do you get to walk around in heels?"

DUNHAM: New Provost states goals, realizes challenges

Continued from A1

will take sacrifices to create achievements.

"I really do believe in the team approach," Dunham said. "I am smart enough to know I don't have all the answers. I am smart enough to know I am privileged to work with a lot of smart people, so if I listen, it will make leading a lot easier."

A healthy mix takes place between the members of the Leadership Team, creating successful cohesion.

"We are all collabora-

tors," Dunham said. "I really appreciate the openness, the transparency that we all embrace."

Dunham hopes to bring other aspects of the University together, creating even greater collaboration at Northwest. He speaks of bringing groups such as Student Affairs and Academic Affairs together.

As a major part of the Leadership Team, Dunham has presented exact goals the team needs to move toward to better Northwest. Budget challenges, dorm space issues, utilizing technology in classrooms

and addressing professional development needs are all on the team's immediate agenda.

"That is going to be, over the next 15 months, one of the more challenging parts of the job," Dunham said. "Making sure that we steer Northwest on a course where we're going to thrive, not survive, as the President is likely to say. I fully believe we are able to do that, that doesn't mean there won't be some difficult decisions along the way."

Working as the Interim Provost has given Dunham an advantage as he steps into the new position immediately.

"My learning curve came earlier when I came into the position in July," Dunham said. "I have tried in many ways to not act as an interim, but tried to tackle some difficult issues."

Dunham shows great appreciation in receiving the position and is ready to move forward.

"I'm going to work my hardest not to let down the team, the deans council, the faculty or staff," Dunham said.

FLOODING: 102 approaches record high water levels

Continued from A1

melting process for the last two weeks," Easterla said. "So the river's been able to handle it instead of getting it all at once."

Southern towns such as Rosendale and St. Joseph were hit harder by flooding than Maryville, due largely to the accumulation of melting snow flowing downstream. Easterla also claims Maryville's higher elevation helped keep disaster at bay.

"Flooding is natural.

Mother nature worked out a nice remedy for flooding, called the meandering of springs," Easterla said. "The extra surface area was mother nature's way of handling water during times of excessive water and snow."

Easterla continues, saying commercial "river straightening" to increase bottom land for crop planting is to blame for the elimination of that extra surface area. Corporate engineers in the 1920s and 1930s applied the prac-

tice to rivers and streams across the Northwest Missouri region.

"When you straighten those streams, it's like flushing a stool," Easterla said. "The water comes in and away it goes."

Time will tell if Maryville's record-breaking snowfalls will result in consequent record-breaking flooding. In the meantime, FEMA, MODOT and the 102 River Wildlife Club are keeping their measuring rods and sandbags ready.

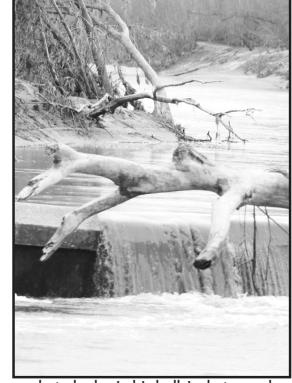


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A LARGE BRANCH is rushed down stream after recent flooding on the 102 river. Rain and snow melts led to near-record highs.

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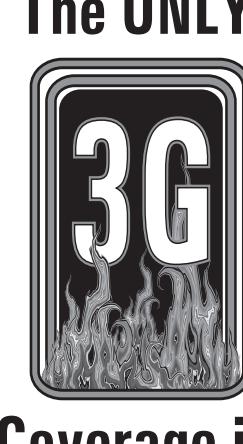


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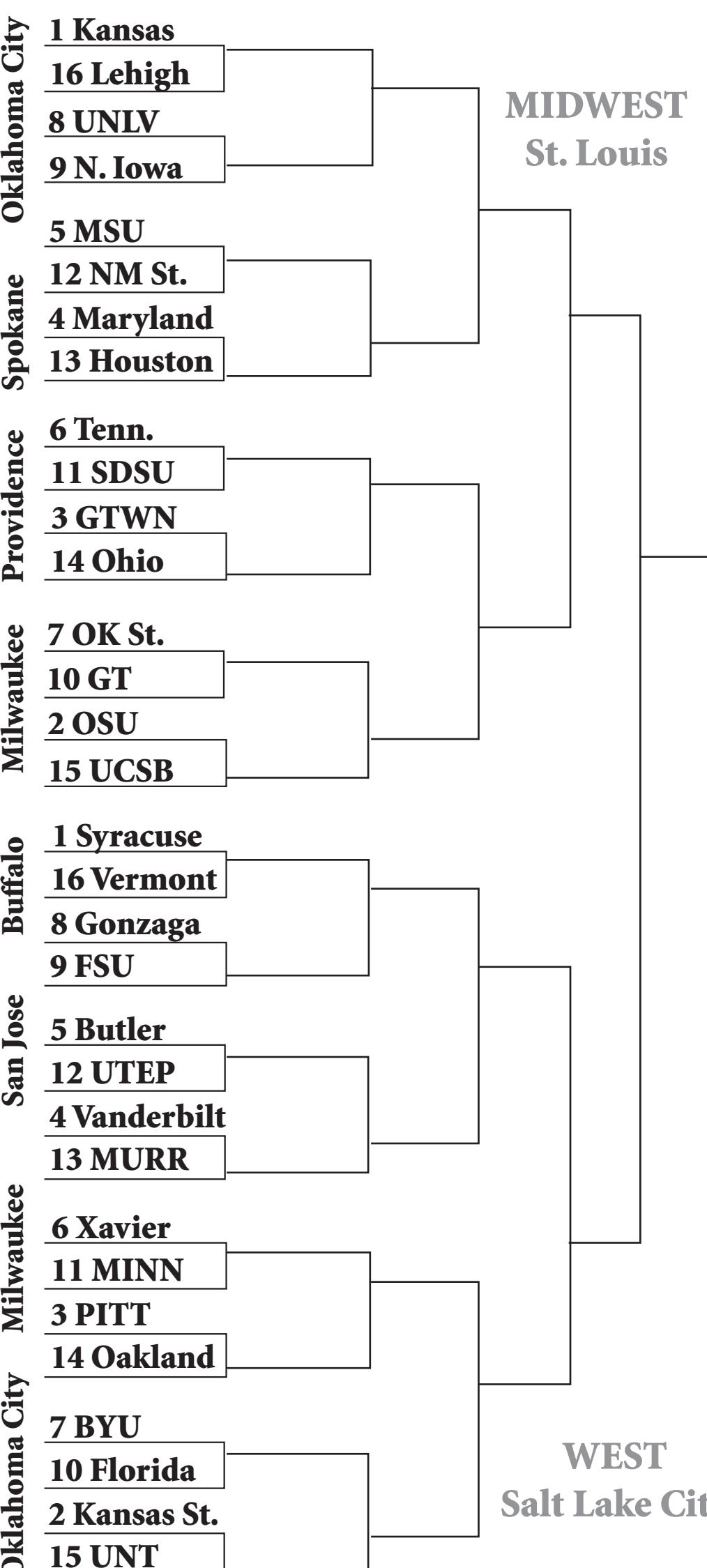
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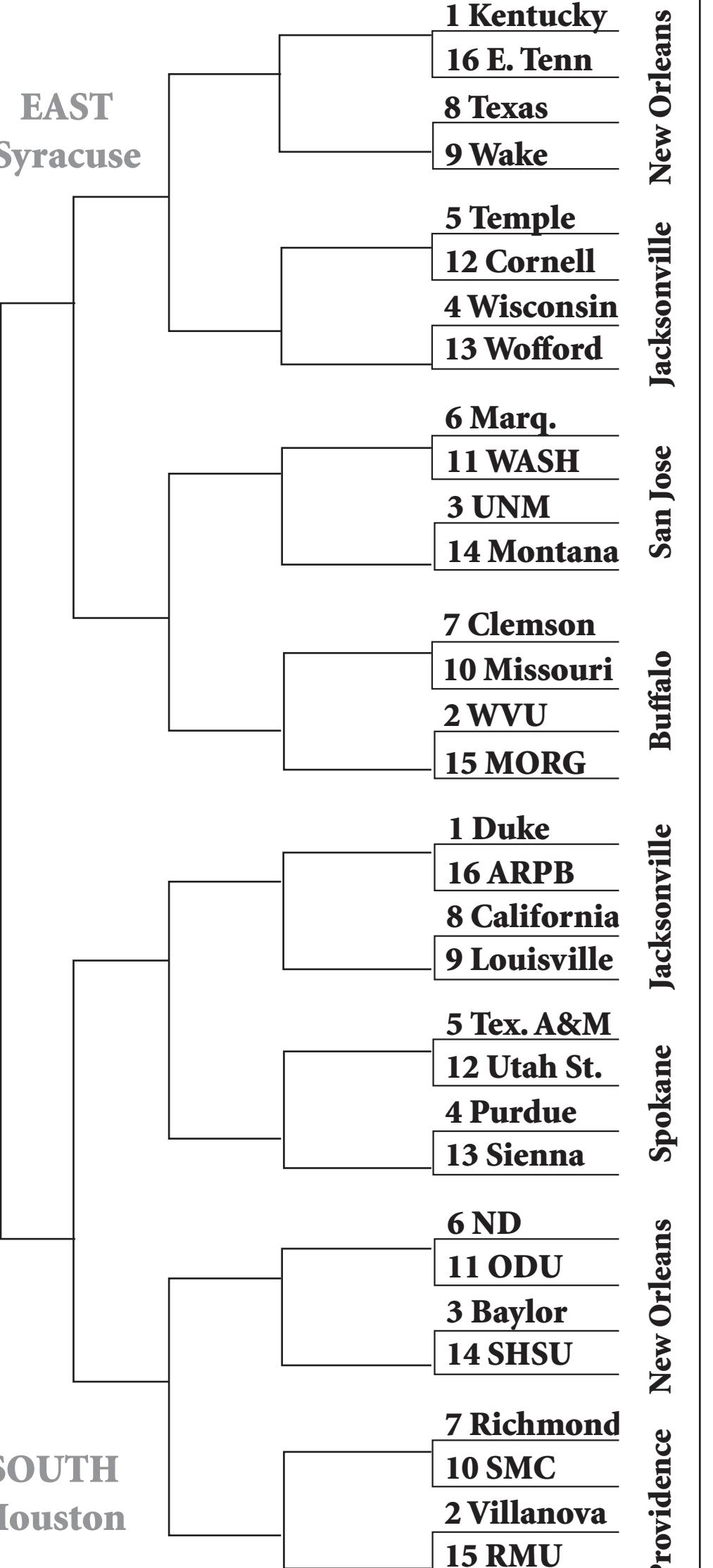
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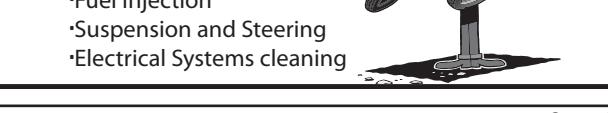
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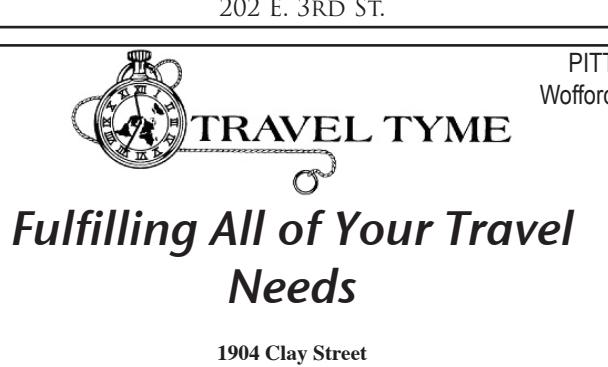
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Trees of Life

A LEGEND ABOUT BAOBAB

"The Baobob was among the first trees to appear on the land. Next came the slender, graceful palm tree. When the baobob saw the palm tree, it cried out that it wanted to be taller. Then the beautiful flame tree appeared with its red flower and the baobob was envious for flower blossoms. When the baobab saw the magnificent fig tree, it prayed for fruit as well. The gods became angry with the tree and pulled it up by its roots, then replanted it upside down to keep it quiet." -Anonymous



GEORGE KEGODE POSES with the natives in Malawi next to one of the massive Baobab trees. Kegode helped Naturals.m survey the trees which aided them in processing the fruit which is rich in nutrients such as Vitamin C and protein.

photo courtesy george kegode

Professor makes trip to Malawi to conduct surveys of Baobab trees

By Brian Johnson
Features Editor

Anyone who's seen "The Lion King" remembers the groundbreaking images. The scenery, characters and overall message of unity and love gave its viewers an insight into the nature and life of Africa. One of the most striking images of the movie was the massive Baobab tree that Rafiki, the baboon, hung out at. These trees are something that a face at Northwest is very familiar with.

George Kegode, a professor of agriculture, spent 15 days in Malawi as part of a special project to help conduct surveys for a company that is using the trees' fruit for processing. Malawi is mostly known as a country of poverty in the media thanks to Madonna bringing the country's problems to light.

Kegode's journey started with an act of Congress. An organization called the Community Network for Foreign Affairs, enacted by Congress, specializes in giving aid to foreign countries, Malawi being one of them. The U.S. got wind of the studies of the Baobab tree and decided to send people there through a special program. Kegode was one of them.

The program is called the John Ogonowski Farmer-To-Farmer Program. It is named after John Ogonowski and former Congressman Doug Bereuter. Ogonowski was a pilot that died on September, 11 and a big agricultural activist.

The purpose of the program is to "encourage cross-cultural exchange and understanding, promote peace and prosperity and to promote the understanding of American values."

While Kegode had been intrigued by the project, he did not know much about the trees, even after being around them when he grew up in Kenya.

"They are associated with mys-

tery, mystique, witchcraft," Kegode said. "In Kenya, Baobab's are plenty, but nobody does anything with them because of that mystique."

Kegode said that the natives had traditionally used the fruit for wine and alcoholic beverages, but the food hadn't been used for industrial use. As part of his research, Kegode interviewed some of the natives in the communities where Baobab's were located. He also looked into the distribution and processing of the fruit.

"It's one of those trees you can't really climb," Kegode said. "So they have to wait for the fruit to drop. In some cases they'll pick it from the trees by knocking them, but they wait for them to drop."

The natives eat the fruit but now the pulp is being studied for its nutritional benefits. Undertaking this task is a company called Naturals.m. They work on processing the pulp to make a smoothie.

"Not all trees are the same was one thing I found out," Kegode said. "Some produce sweet fruit, some produce bitter fruit and there were some trees that didn't produce anything at all."

The nutrition of the fruit and leaves of the Baobab trees have proven to be vast. The dried leaves are rich in B-carotene, the tender leaves are rich in vitamin A and calcium and the pulp is high in vitamin C. The seed kernels are exceptionally nutritious as they are rich in lysine, vitamin B1, calcium and iron, and are high in protein.

Conservation of the trees has not become an issue. The natives don't climb the trees or pick apart the branches due to waiting until the fruit falls, so the trees stay in relatively good shape.

The FDA has recently approved the importation of the fruit powder that can be made into a smoothie, so now the U.S. can benefit from the great nutritional benefits that these mystical trees can offer.

STROLLER

Your Man says start digging for gold

Each week, Your Man is expected to write a cute little rant about cafeteria food, or President Jazz's jogging shorts, or some other minor annoyance.

This week, I'm in a bit of a mood. The Board of Regents voted on increased tuition, room and board, coupled with already-announced budget cuts. Of course, in "this economy," how could they not?

Perhaps it's time we took a realistic look at "this economy". Ever wonder why companies are still laying people off, even while making record profits?

It's because we're not in a recession. We're in the midst of an economic and social sea change, the likes of which the world hasn't seen in at least a century.

The fact is, we're moving toward a way of life that has little need for any considerable amount of manual labor—at least not by human beings. We've begun the shift toward that future where everybody wears shiny clothes, and food

materializes on your table at the push of a button.

Even in the near future, as the global supply of Homo sapiens increases, while companies' demand for them drops precipitously, those with college educations will be clamoring for fewer and fewer remaining jobs.

The Obama administration, for all its talk of hope and change, has continued the political practice of every President, Congress and Supreme Court since Kennedy was killed, which is to bend over backwards to benefit corporations and the rich. They call it trickle-down economics, but when was the last time it did anything but gush upward?

Make no mistake: the economy as we know it cannot and will not sustain itself. If Northwest is to survive, it needs to do more than hunker down and try to weather the storm.

It needs a fresh approach to funding. Something daring. Something groundbreaking.



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to think outside the box and create something brilliant. Why not us? Why not now?

I'm by no means brilliant, but I have a feeling the answer lies in pellet-powered energy. That or Cash4Gold. We have gold around here somewhere. I'm looking at you, geology department. Start digging.

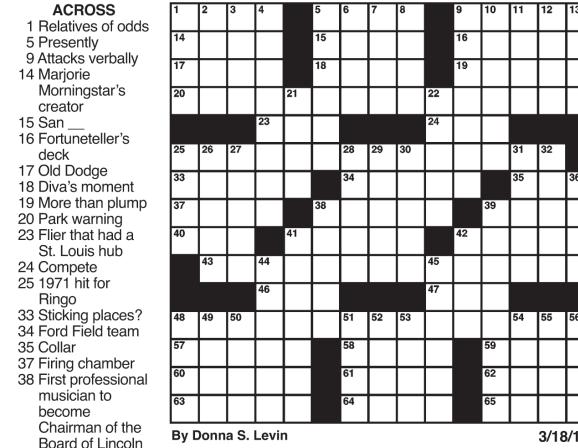
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By Donna S. Levin

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Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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REVIEW

Pattinson proves he can do more than vampire roles in 'Remember Me'

By Erin Colasacco
Missourian Reporter

Though Robert Pattinson has received much of his fortune and female fan-base for his work in the teen-thriller "Twilight," fans who hope to see the same type of character might be disappointed with last week's release of "Remember Me." However, this is not to say that the rest

of movie-goers will be.

"Remember Me" follows Pattinson as a troubled young man who's estranged relationship with his father and dark past keep him from really enjoying life. This all changes when he meets Amy, played by Emilie de Ravin, who brings him out of the darkness. Together they work through the issues of their past and toward a brighter

future. The movie takes a touching turn at the end that is really unexpected. The twist adds even more weight to the underlying theme of the movie: living and loving to the fullest.

I had never seen any of Pattinson's movies before, but after seeing his work in this film, I am thoroughly impressed. He played the angst-filled young man part

quite well, adding just enough charisma to make me feel for the character. The thing that was most pleasing to me was the strong, mostly unknown, supporting cast. All of the characters were very well developed and complex. The emotions translated well to me as a viewer.

The previews make the movie seem like another sappy love story and this is

absolutely not the case. The movie contains some very dark themes and content. It takes you on an emotional roller coaster and kept surprising me the whole way through. The way that the plot unexpectedly twists at the end made the whole movie worthwhile for me.

At hour, 53 minutes, the movie did seem slow at times, but the majority of the scenes

were integral to setting up and telling the story in such a way that you really felt connected to the characters.

Set against the vibrant backdrop of New York City, with relatable characters and strong performances, it is definitely a movie that I would recommend to anyone our age who wants a touching lesson in passionate love and living life to the fullest.

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BOYS' BASKETBALL

SENIOR POST
KEENAN Joiner lays it up for two points during a game earlier this season. The 'Hounds lost to Hogan Prep 54-45 in the Quarterfinals on Saturday.



photo by
lori frankenfield
I photography
editor

'Hounds fall in Quarterfinals, just miss State

By Jason Lawrence
Sports Editor

In a rematch of the Class 2 boys' football Quarterfinal, Maryville couldn't get past Hogan Prep in the Class 3 basketball Quarterfinals.

The Spoofhounds fell 54-45 to the Rams on Saturday in Sedalia, Mo.

The loss ends the Spoofhounds' season at 21-5 overall, and just one game shy of the State Final Four.

"We had a great year," head coach Mike Kuwitzky said. "District and Sectional Champs, we had a great group of six seniors that led us very well all season. It was a very enjoyable season, very exciting. To win as many games as we did against quality people, I'm just very proud

of this team. It's a season to remember."

Kuwitzky was also named District Coach of the Year prior to the match-up with Hogan Prep.

Hogan Prep jumped out to an 18-12 lead after the first quarter. Maryville committed eight turnovers to start the game.

"It was a tough start," Kuwitzky said. "We got off to a slow start, had too many turnovers and too many quick shots early. They jumped up on us."

Maryville kept the deficit at just six heading into the locker room at halftime with the score 27-21.

The Spoofhounds made a run in the third, but the Rams answered with a run of their own to push their lead to eight

points after three quarters of play.

In the fourth quarter, Maryville cut the lead to three, but couldn't convert on their next two trips down the court, giving Hogan Prep time to extend the lead back to seven.

"We fought back and even got within range of a chance to win late in the game," Kuwitzky said. "I thought we had a great chance of winning it. They just made a few more plays than we did, so it resulted in a nine point loss."

The 'Hounds didn't get close the rest of the way and were outscored 14-13 in the final period to secure the win for Hogan Prep.

"I was proud of our effort," Kuwitzky said. "I was proud of how hard we played, and

I was really proud that we didn't give up the entire game. We got beat by a very athletic, very good team. If we'd have made a few more plays we could have won. We can't hang our heads because I thought our kids played very hard."

Senior guard Josh Elliot scored a team-high 15 points for the Spoofhounds. Senior forward Adam Thomson added 14 points and fellow senior forward Keenan Joiner chipped in eight points in the loss.

Elliot, Thomson and Joiner were named to the Class 3 District 16 All-District team last Thursday.

Dewan Cummings, Hogan Prep's quarterback during football season, scored a game-high 19 points.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Spoofhounds get big win, head for State playoffs

By Tony Botts
Comm. Sports Editor

Maryville battled through a shaky start Saturday afternoon against Stockton to punch their first ticket to Columbia since 1981.

"We obviously got off to a slow start on the offensive end," head coach Grant Hagemen said. "But, we got some good looks. We were a little rattled, turned the ball over a little more than we should have, but I thought the other team was a little nervous, also. We had open shots [that] didn't fall in the first half, especially. When the girls relaxed

and started executing, then they started playing a little better in the third quarter. We got a couple of shots to fall and we started playing well after that."

For Hagemen, who was named District Coach of the Year last week, and the Spoofhounds, reaching this point in the season has been a team goal for many of the past few seasons.

"The ultimate goal has been Columbia for quite a while," Hagemen said. "Probably for the last three years I should say. To come so close last year, it was obviously very rewarding to get back to the

Quarterfinal game and give them another chance to have a shot at Columbia."

The 'Hounds avoided the letdown of last season's quarterfinal loss, by pounding the Tigers 46-30.

The 'Hounds put the hammer down in the third quarter, collecting 18 points off of three 3-pointers and only two missed shots from the field and one from the free-throw line.

Senior Meridee Scott, who was recently named to the All-District team along with Emily Kisker, led all 'Hounds with 13 points including three 3-pointers. Kisker and junior

Taylor Gadbois added nine points as well.

"Meridee just makes big shots," Hagemen said. "She does so much for us on the offensive end and defensive end, really. She had some key steals in the third quarter, I thought, and did a good job of staying tall and hit some good shots that gave her teammates some confidence. For our team, shooting is contagious. When Meridee is hitting, it opens some other shots for the team. She really just played great."

While Gadbois did not lead the team in any scoring figures, Hagemen said she,



photo by seth cook | editor in chief
JUNIOR GUARD MATAYA Wooten dribbles up court in a game against Auburn earlier this season. The Spoofhounds will play Mount Vernon in the State Semifinals on Thursday in Columbia, Mo.

along with junior Mataya Wooten, helped to shut down many of Stockton's leading scorers last Saturday.

The 'Hounds (25-3) tip-off

against Mount Vernon for a chance to play for the Class 3 State Championship. Tip-off is at 1:40 p.m., Thursday at Mizzou Arena in Columbia, Mo.

NORTHWEST

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Ben McKim



Senior thrower Ben McKim threw a career best 59-feet, 11-inches in the shot put at the National Indoor Championships last weekend. McKim placed fourth in the nation, earning All-American status. He now looks to repeat as an outdoor All-American.

Emily Churchman



Senior pentathlete Emily Churchman earned All-American status for the second year in a row at the National Indoor Championships last weekend. She set a new career-best and broke her own program record by scoring 3,704 points in the pentathlon.

Maryville

Basketball

Maryville

Basketball
The Spoofhounds fell to Hogan Prep 54-45 in the State Quarterfinals in a rematch of the football Quarterfinals. All-District seniors Josh Elliot and Adam Thomson scored 15 and 14 points, respectively. The 'Hounds finish their season with a final record of 21-5.

Meridee Scott



Senior All-District guard Meridee Scott scored a game-high 13 points in Maryville's 46-30 State Quarterfinal win over Stockton that propelled the Spoofhounds into the semifinals versus Mount Vernon today. The 'Hounds currently sit at 25-3 on the season, with two games left.

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BEARCATS

WRESTLING CLUB

Club improves standing, looks to next year

By Tony Botts
Comm. Sports Editor

The Northwest wrestling club improved on their performance last year at nationals; shooting up the board from 46 place in 2009, to 17 at this year's tournament.

Craig Addison, 125 lbs., not only earned the distinct honor of capturing All-American status for the second consecutive year, he wrestled his way to a career best third place finish.

"Originally, he was going to be student teaching this semester," head coach Nic Brent said. "He decided to hold off on it in order to wrestle, really just to go another year. He was hesitant at first because he did so well last year as an

All-American. He took seventh place, ended his career on a win and then by mid-summer he knew he had to go another round."

Brent said at times during the season Addison questioned if he had made the right decision. However, the returning All-American continued to commit to his choice of wrestling one more year in hopes of claiming yet another All-American title.

Addison did just that. After making it through the first two rounds of wrestling by decisions of 3-2 and 8-3, he would fall to eventual National Champion Grant Kadokura of MIT, 5-2.

Addison faced a long road of wrestle-backs ahead of him to claim third place, but he proceeded to fight his

way through the field with four straight decisions.

Six other Northwest wrestlers failed to place, with three going 0-2, and the remaining three wrestled their ways to the "heartbreak round," or the round prior to automatically placing in the top eight, before finally being eliminated.

The other wrestlers were A.J. Groff, 141 lbs., Jacob Mercer, 149 lbs., Jordan Peter, 174 lbs., Matthew Carroll, 184 lbs., Blake Schoeninger, 197 lbs. and Austin Laudwig, 285 lbs.

Earlier in the season, the wrestling club made efforts to continue working towards bringing back a varsity wrestling team by hosting a home meet against Kansas State.

"That was huge," Brent said. "It was probably the highlight of my college career, seeing a wrestling mat under the scoreboard in Bearcat Arena. ...In the locker room before we ran out, I said there was two ways to look at this; either a) we're just a bunch of guys in college wrestling against other college guys, or b) we're bringing back something great to this campus that at one time was what this University was known for. We're acting as the flagship to bringing back something that's really special."

Brent said while looking forward to next season, talks have already been made for the wrestling club to host not one, but four home duals next winter.

BASEBALL

Bearcats grab first MIAA win, open at home Friday

By A.J. Martin
Missourian Reporter

up three runs with only one earned. He also struck out five batters.

The 'Cats were also in action Tuesday as they traveled to Nebraska-Kearney (13-9) for a double header.

The 'Cats dropped both contests to the Lopers; however, they were within striking distance in both games.

Northwest jumped out to a 2-0 lead with Brandon Kirsch's two-run single in the third inning. After the two teams traded a run, Nebraska-Kearney got a four-run sixth inning to put the game away.

In the second outing, Northwest tied the game in the top of the fourth inning after scoring three big runs.

Nebraska-Kearney would add a run of its own in the bottom of the fourth, and scored two more in the sixth to extend their lead to 6-3.

The Bearcats put on their rally caps, and scored two more runs in the top of the seventh before their comeback bid fell short.

Northwest will have a tough time this weekend with a Missouri Southern team that is coming off a four-game sweep of Missouri Western this past weekend.

The Lions currently sit in seventh place in the MIAA.

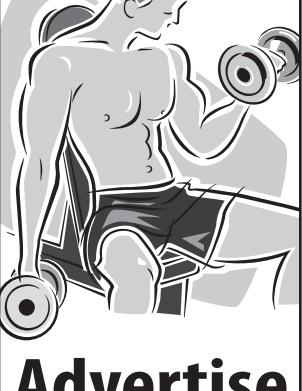
The 'Cats play their home-opener at 1 p.m., tomorrow with games two and three of the series coming on Saturday and Sunday; both of those games start at 2 p.m., at Bearcat Field.

TENNIS

FRESHMAN RAPHAEL OLIVERIA returns a volley in the No. 1 doubles match against UMKC. Results of the match were unavailable as of press time.



photo by kevin birdsell | missourian photographer



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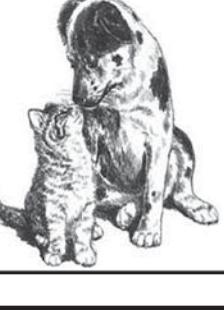
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MARCH MADNESS

MONTH OF MAYHEM



**Sherron
Collins**

photo courtesy Rich Sugg/ Kansas City Star/ MCT

Kansas teammates Sherron Collins (4) and Marcus Morris (22) celebrate the Jayhawks' 72-64 win over rival Kansas State in the Championship game of the Big 12 Men's Basketball Tournament at the Sprint Center in Kansas City, Mo., on March 13, 2010.



Da'Sean Butler

photo courtesy Ron Cortes/ Philadelphia Inquirer/ MCT

West Virginia's Da'Sean Butler prepares to jump into a teammate after hitting the game-winning shot in overtime against Villanova. West Virginia defeated Villanova, 88-86, at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia, Penn., on March 6, 2010.



**Solomon
Alabi**

photo courtesy Ethan Hyman/ Raleigh News Observer/MCT

Florida State's Solomon Alabi (32) reacts after dunking against North Carolina State in the first half of a Quarterfinal game at Greensboro Coliseum in Greensboro, N.C., on March 12, 2010.



**John
Wall**

photo courtesy Mark Cornelison/Lexington Herald-Leader/MCT

Kentucky's John Wall goes in for a break away dunk against Vanderbilt during first-half action at Memorial Gym in Nashville, Tenn., on February 20, 2010. Kentucky defeated Vanderbilt 58-56.

Sports staff dissects tournament bracket, make picks of their own

Jason's Picks

The bracket committee needs to retire. I mean seriously, how can you look at that bracket and say 'this looks fair?' Kentucky got handed a cakewalk bracket. Their only challenge will be West Virginia in the Elite Eight. John Wall will be regarded as a God for leading this team of underachiever's to the Final Four, when he's struggled when his team has needed him the most all season. Kansas was placed in the most ridiculous bracket I've ever seen for a No. 1 overall seed. The No. 2-7 seeds are easily the strongest of any of the sections. The Jayhawks didn't even get the play-in game like in years' past. If the 'Hawks make it through this bracket, they will win the National Title. Kansas, K-State, Kentucky and Villanova will make the Final Four in one of the weakest fields in years. Kansas will face off with the Wildcats in a coaches rematch from the 2008 title game, with Bill Self and the 'Hawks coming out on top again.

Tony's Picks

In the many years I have been picking brackets this is by far the weakest field of 65. You can go with your gut feelings, and relying on the high seeds to pull through for you. This tournament has been set up to favor the upset alert. Eight-seeds are being talked about making Final Four runs and even the lone Ivy League school is being inserted into the Sweet-16 by some experts. With so much controversy on who got left out, and the sheer disappointment of the big names failing to be one of the top 65 teams in the nation, only sets this tournament up for bracket-busting disaster. Some of the intriguing early match-ups includes 12-seed UTEP facing off against No. 5 Butler in the West region and the No. 4 Maryland vs. No. 13 Houston in the Midwest. In the end however, watch Kansas fight its way through the gauntlet set before them and West Virginia playing themselves into the Championship.

Brian "The Bulldog's" picks

Yes, it's that time of year again. After another season of spacing off college basketball, it's time for me to throw away my hard earned money trying to win some March Madness pool, and I love it. This year I'm not so sure there is any team out there that is really unbeatable. I won't say this more than once, so all you Kansas fans pay close attention. I think the Jayhawks are the best team in this tournament. Do I think they will win it all? Of course not. Sadly, the Jaws have probably the toughest road to the finals, and I think they will get tripped up along the way. The team I think will shock some people on their Elite Eight appearance is the Seminoles from Florida State. This team can pose a threat to anyone on the other side of the court, and if they hit their stride I'd watch out. The 'Noles Nigerian sophomore Solomon Alabi can tear teams apart if given the opportunity.

Kevin's Picks

Ah, March Madness, my favorite time of the year. This year's field left a lot of people scratching their heads. Some teams felt like they were a lock and missed out, while other teams were priming themselves for the NIT and got a surprise on Selection Sunday. This should make for an exciting tourney this year. Kansas and Kentucky are my two favorites this year. I give my edge to Kentucky. With very little competition in the East bracket, I see them having an easy trip to the Elite Eight. West Virginia will give them a run for their money, but behind their three fantastic freshman, John Wall, DeMarcus Cousins and Eric Bledsoe, they will be able to squeak by. In the Final Four they will face the winner of the South bracket, which is the weakest in my opinion. In their match-up with Kansas in the final they should be able to narrowly escape with their first National Championship since 1998.

TRACK AND FIELD

Bearcats bring home three All-Americans, prepare for outdoor season opener

By Jason Lawrence
Sports Editor

Northwest sent four athletes down to Albuquerque, N.M., to compete in the National Indoor Track and Field Championships. Three came back as All-Americans.

Senior pentathlete Emily Churchman broke her own program record by scoring 3,704 points on her way to a fifth place overall finish.

"She had a tough time in the shot put, but the other four events were really good," head coach Scott Lorek said. "She competed

well and went from eighth to fifth this year, so we're definitely happy there."

Churchman is a repeat indoor All-American after finishing eighth last year, and the sixth Northwest woman to garner All-America status in back-to-back years. The last to do it was Alisha Samuel in 2004 and 2005 in the 60-meter-dash.

Senior thrower Ben McKim finished fourth in the nation in the shot put with a throw of 59-feet, 11 inches. It was a career best for McKim, and just shy of the 60 foot goal he had set for himself to get before the

season.

McKim was an outdoor All-American last year.

"Ben McKim misses 60-feet by an inch and ends up fourth," Lorek said. "It wasn't that long ago that would win easily."

Sophomore Tyler Shaw also added to his All-America list, having placed second at the indoor meet and fourth at the outdoor meet last year.

Shaw ran the 60-meter hurdles in 8.08 seconds, good enough for 6th place. He is the sixth Bearcat men's athlete to repeat as an All-American, and the first since

E.J. Faulkner in the 200-meter dash in 2005 and 2006, respectively.

"Tyler Shaw ran two one-hundredths of a second from what he did last year when he got second in the nation," Lorek said. "He was the last guy to make the finals. He hasn't really run a clean race all indoor season. He's one hurdle away from just running great. I really feel good about him in outdoor."

Freshman Angela Adams also made the trek to New Mexico, but came up one spot and two seconds short of All-America status.

Adams finished ninth

in the 5,000-meter run in 17:30.31, less than two seconds behind the 8th place finisher.

"She was one second away from being third in the nation when she slipped over the curb with about 150-meters to go," Lorek said.

"It's just a heart-breaker on that one. It was close and it was a kickers race. There was a group and they shot by her as soon as she stumbled. I feel totally confident there's no way she would have finished lower than fourth. But it happened, so we'll deal with it."

The team doesn't get a

break as they open the outdoor season this weekend.

"We're looking for those four to go," Lorek said. "And we hope to add a few more to the list."

The 'Cats will compete Saturday in the Tulsa Invitational in Tulsa, Okla.

"We're not taking the whole team, just taking a smaller group," Lorek said. "It's a good start to our outdoor season. We're hoping for some good weather. I don't think we're going to get it, but it's a good opening meet for us. Get one in early, then come back for a home meet in two weeks."